#8
BJ
8-29-02

OIPE JC174
AUG 26 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kouji FUNAKI, et al.

Docket No: Q67798

Appln. No. 10/024,015

Group Art Unit: 1742

Confirmation No.: 4340

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: SILICON NITRIDE SINTERED MATERIAL AND PRODUCTION PROCESS THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

RECEIVED
AUG 29 2002
TECHNOLOGY

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

RECEIVED
AUG 27 2002
TC 1700

request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Abraham J. Rosner
Registration No. 33,276

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: August 26, 2002

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

OIPE JC174 AUG 26 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sheet	1	of	1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/024,015
Confirmation Number	4340
Filing Date	December 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kouji FUNAKI
Art Unit	1742
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q67798

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number: Number	Document Number: Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		US 4,977,112	A	12/11/1990	Matsui
		US 4,407,970	A	10/04/1983	Komatsu, et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document: Country Code[3]	Foreign Patent Document: Number[4]	Foreign Patent Document: Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation[6]
		EP	0 493 802	A1	07/08/1992	Kyocera Corporation	
		EP	0 397 464	A	11/14/1990	NGK Insulators, Ltd.	
		WO	95/33701	A	12/14/1995	Allied Signal Inc.	
		JP	10-300086	A	11/13/1998	NGK Spark Plug. Co.	Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation[6]
		European Search Report for EP 01 31 0900 dated march 25, 2002	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1]Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2]See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). [4]For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5]Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

RECEIVED AUG 27 2002 TC